

Social Security Program

The Social Security program—Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI)—provides monthly benefits to workers and their families when earnings stop or are reduced because the worker retires, dies, or becomes disabled. The amount of the worker's retirement insurance (old-age) or disability benefit is based on the worker's level of earnings in employment or self-employment covered by the Social Security program. The benefit amount for an auxiliary or survivor beneficiary is based on a percentage of the worker's benefit. Monthly benefits are payable to retired workers at age 65 (reduced benefits at 62) or to disabled workers at any age. Auxiliary and survivor beneficiaries must generally meet an age, a disability, or child care requirement.

Nationally, in December 2001 benefits were paid to 45,874,040 persons. This number included 28,841,850 retired workers, 5,024,520 widows and widowers, 5,265,190 disabled workers, 2,895,150 wives and husbands, and 3,847,330 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.7 percent of the total population and 91.2 percent of the population 65 or older.

Monthly benefits averaged \$874 for retired workers; \$820 for all widows and widowers (\$841 for nondisabled widows and widowers); \$815 for disabled workers; and \$430 for wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers. Average payments for children of deceased workers were \$570; for children of retired workers, \$414; and for children of disabled workers, \$239.

Monthly payments for December 2001 totaled \$36.5 billion. Of this amount, \$26.6 billion was paid to retired workers and their dependents; \$5.2 billion to survivors; and \$4.7 billion to disabled workers and their dependents. Average benefits and total monthly payments include the 2.6 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2001.

In **Connecticut**, benefits were paid to 580,180 persons. This number included 405,620 retired workers; 51,300 widows and widowers; 55,180 disabled workers; 27,700 wives and husbands; and 40,380 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 16.9 percent of the total population of the state and 94.8 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Connecticut received an average of \$959 per month; widows and widowers, \$912; disabled workers, \$841; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$499. Average payments for children were: \$492 for children of retired workers; \$634 for children of deceased workers; and \$247 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly payments in December 2001 totaled \$515 million. Of this amount, \$405 million was paid to retired workers and their dependents; \$59 million to survivors; and \$50 million to disabled workers and their dependents.

Supplemental Security Income Program

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2002, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$545, and for a couple, \$817.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2001, 6,688,489 persons received federally administered SSI payments including 1,264,463 aged, and 5,424,026 who were disabled or blind. A total of 1,995,159 recipients were aged 65 or older, 3,811,494 were 18 to 64, and 881,836 were under age 18.

The total number of persons receiving either a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 50,172,400. Federally administered payments totaled over \$2.8 billion in December 2001: \$2.5 billion in federal SSI payments, and \$302 million in state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$394. The aged averaged \$314; disabled and blind, \$413.

In addition, 689,163 persons in 30 states received state-administered payments in December 2001, which totaled \$75 million.

In **Connecticut**, 49,586 persons—6,973 aged, and 42,613 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2001. A total of 12,185 recipients were aged 65 or older, 31,542 between 18 and 64, and 5,859 under 18.

Federal SSI payments totaled \$20 million. The average federal payment was \$376 overall, \$303 for aged recipients, and \$388 for those disabled and blind. In addition, 20,917 persons in Connecticut received state-administered supplementation in December 2001, which totaled \$6.8 million.

In December 2001, the total number of persons in Connecticut receiving either a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 614,616.

Social Security Earnings and Employment

Nationally, in 1999, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 151.4 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance or OASDI) program. They earned \$3.7 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$464 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI Trust Funds.

In **Connecticut** in 1999, an estimated 1.93 million residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$57.10 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$7.08 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare Earnings and Employment

Nationally, in 1999, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 154.7 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance or HI) program. They earned \$4.6 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$134 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI Trust Fund.

In **Connecticut** in 1999, an estimated 1.96 million residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$83.40 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$2.42 billion in Medicare taxes.



Angela Y. Harper was responsible for the programming, processing and compiling of data. For additional information pertaining to data in the factsheet, please contact Rona Blumenthal (410-965-0163) for Social Security data; Arthur Kahn for SSI program data (410-965-0186); and for information about earnings and employment, Greg Diez (410-965-0153). For technical information about the data processing, contact Angela Y. Harper (410-965-0106). For additional copies, contact the Division of Information Resources (202-358-6274) or check SSA's web site: <http://www.ssa.gov/policy>.

Social Security Program

The Social Security program—Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI)—provides monthly benefits to workers and their families when earnings stop or are reduced because the worker retires, dies, or becomes disabled. The amount of the worker's retirement insurance (old-age) or disability benefit is based on the worker's level of earnings in employment or self-employment covered by the Social Security program. The benefit amount for an auxiliary or survivor beneficiary is based on a percentage of the worker's benefit. Monthly benefits are payable to retired workers at age 65 (reduced benefits at 62) or to disabled workers at any age. Auxiliary and survivor beneficiaries must generally meet an age, a disability, or child care requirement.

Nationally, in December 2001 benefits were paid to 45,874,040 persons. This number included 28,841,850 retired workers, 5,024,520 widows and widowers, 5,265,190 disabled workers, 2,895,150 wives and husbands, and 3,847,330 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.7 percent of the total population and 91.2 percent of the population 65 or older.

Monthly benefits averaged \$874 for retired workers; \$820 for all widows and widowers (\$841 for nondisabled widows and widowers); \$815 for disabled workers; and \$430 for wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers. Average payments for children of deceased workers were \$570; for children of retired workers, \$414; and for children of disabled workers, \$239.

Monthly payments for December 2001 totaled \$36.5 billion. Of this amount, \$26.6 billion was paid to retired workers and their dependents; \$5.2 billion to survivors; and \$4.7 billion to disabled workers and their dependents. Average benefits and total monthly payments include the 2.6 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2001.

In **Maine**, benefits were paid to 253,810 persons. This number included 154,910 retired workers; 25,860 widows and widowers; 36,200 disabled workers; 14,910 wives and husbands; and 21,930 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 19.7 percent of the total population of the state and 95.2 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Maine received an average of \$805 per month; widows and widowers, \$780; disabled workers, \$743; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$410. Average payments for children were: \$411 for children of retired workers; \$573 for children of deceased workers; and \$201 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly payments in December 2001 totaled \$186 million. Of this amount, \$132 million was paid to retired workers and their dependents; \$25 million to survivors; and \$29 million to disabled workers and their dependents.

Supplemental Security Income Program

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2002, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$545, and for a couple, \$817.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2001, 6,688,489 persons received federally administered SSI payments

including 1,264,463 aged, and 5,424,026 who were disabled or blind. A total of 1,995,159 recipients were aged 65 or older, 3,811,494 were 18 to 64, and 881,836 were under age 18.

The total number of persons receiving either a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 50,172,400. Federally administered payments totaled over \$2.8 billion in December 2001: \$2.5 billion in federal SSI payments, and \$302 million in state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$394. The aged averaged \$314; disabled and blind, \$413.

In addition, 689,163 persons in 30 states received state-administered payments in December 2001, which totaled \$75 million.

In **Maine**, 30,138 persons—3,154 aged, and 26,984 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2001. A total of 5,960 recipients were aged 65 or older, 21,178 between 18 and 64, and 3,000 under 18.

Federal SSI payments totaled \$11 million. The average federal payment was \$331 overall, \$151 for aged recipients, and \$352 for those disabled and blind. In addition, 38,649 persons in Maine received state-administered supplementation in December 2001, which totaled \$611,000.

In December 2001, the total number of persons in Maine receiving either a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 270,386.

Social Security Earnings and Employment

Nationally, in 1999, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 151.4 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance or OASDI) program. They earned \$3.7 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$464 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI Trust Funds.

In **Maine** in 1999, an estimated 692,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$14.68 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$1.82 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare Earnings and Employment

Nationally, in 1999, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 154.7 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance or HI) program. They earned \$4.6 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$134 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI Trust Fund.

In **Maine** in 1999, an estimated 718,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$16.80 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$487 million in Medicare taxes.



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Nationally, in December 2001 benefits were paid to 45,874,040 persons. This number included 28,841,850 retired workers, 5,024,520 widows and widowers, 5,265,190 disabled workers, 2,895,150 wives and husbands, and 3,847,330 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.7 percent of the total population and 91.2 percent of the population 65 or older.

Monthly benefits averaged \$874 for retired workers; \$820 for all widows and widowers (\$841 for nondisabled widows and widowers); \$815 for disabled workers; and \$430 for wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers. Average payments for children of deceased workers were \$570; for children of retired workers, \$414; and for children of disabled workers, \$239.

Monthly payments for December 2001 totaled \$36.5 billion. Of this amount, \$26.6 billion was paid to retired workers and their dependents; \$5.2 billion to survivors; and \$4.7 billion to disabled workers and their dependents. Average benefits and total monthly payments include the 2.6 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2001.

In **Massachusetts**, benefits were paid to 1,061,920 persons. This number included 696,240 retired workers; 102,450 widows and widowers; 128,510 disabled workers; 53,180 wives and husbands; and 81,540 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 16.6 percent of the total population of the state and 91.8 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Massachusetts received an average of \$879 per month; widows and widowers, \$853; disabled workers, \$806; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$450. Average payments for children were: \$424 for children of retired workers; \$607 for children of deceased workers; and \$236 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly payments in December 2001 totaled \$861 million. Of this amount, \$640 million was paid to retired workers and their dependents; \$109 million to survivors; and \$113 million to disabled workers and their dependents.

Supplemental Security Income Program

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2002, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$545, and for a couple, \$817.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2001, 6,688,489 persons received federally administered SSI payments including 1,264,463 aged, and 5,424,026 who were disabled or blind. A total of 1,995,159 recipients were aged 65 or older, 3,811,494 were 18 to 64, and 881,836 were under age 18.

The total number of persons receiving either a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 50,172,400. Federally administered payments totaled over \$2.8 billion in December 2001: \$2.5 billion in federal SSI payments, and \$302 million in state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$394. The aged averaged \$314; disabled and blind, \$413.

In addition, 689,163 persons in 30 states received state-administered payments in December 2001, which totaled \$75 million.

In **Massachusetts**, 166,874 persons—45,470 aged, and 121,404 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2001. A total of 48,868 recipients were aged 65 or older, 102,288 between 18 and 64, and 15,718 under 18.

Federally administered SSI payments totaled \$72.9 million, of which \$58.4 million was federal SSI and \$14.5 million, state supplementation. The average federally administered payment was \$410 overall, \$339 for aged recipients, and \$437 for those disabled and blind.

In December 2001, the total number of persons in Massachusetts receiving either a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 1,165,787.

Social Security Earnings and Employment

Nationally, in 1999, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 151.4 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance or OASDI) program. They earned \$3.7 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$464 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI Trust Funds.

In **Massachusetts** in 1999, an estimated 3.40 million residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$95.42 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$11.83 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare Earnings and Employment

Nationally, in 1999, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 154.7 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance or HI) program. They earned \$4.6 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$134 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI Trust Fund.

In **Massachusetts** in 1999, an estimated 3.58 million residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$133.29 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$3.87 billion in Medicare taxes.



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Social Security Program

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Nationally, in December 2001 benefits were paid to 45,874,040 persons. This number included 28,841,850 retired workers, 5,024,520 widows and widowers, 5,265,190 disabled workers, 2,895,150 wives and husbands, and 3,847,330 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.7 percent of the total population and 91.2 percent of the population 65 or older.

Monthly benefits averaged \$874 for retired workers; \$820 for all widows and widowers (\$841 for nondisabled widows and widowers); \$815 for disabled workers; and \$430 for wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers. Average payments for children of deceased workers were \$570; for children of retired workers, \$414; and for children of disabled workers, \$239.

Monthly payments for December 2001 totaled \$36.5 billion. Of this amount, \$26.6 billion was paid to retired workers and their dependents; \$5.2 billion to survivors; and \$4.7 billion to disabled workers and their dependents. Average benefits and total monthly payments include the 2.6 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2001.

In **New Hampshire**, benefits were paid to 204,140 persons. This number included 135,720 retired workers; 18,520 widows and widowers; 23,600 disabled workers; 9,750 wives and husbands; and 16,550 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 16.1 percent of the total population of the state and 97.5 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in New Hampshire received an average of \$891 per month; widows and widowers, \$869; disabled workers, \$815; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$460. Average payments for children were: \$454 for children of retired workers; \$632 for children of deceased workers; and \$254 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly payments in December 2001 totaled \$168 million. Of this amount, \$126 million was paid to retired workers and their dependents; \$21 million to survivors; and \$21 million to disabled workers and their dependents.

Supplemental Security Income Program

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2002, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$545, and for a couple, \$817.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2001, 6,688,489 persons received federally administered SSI payments including 1,264,463 aged, and 5,424,026 who were disabled or blind. A total of 1,995,159 recipients were aged 65 or older, 3,811,494 were 18 to 64, and 881,836 were under age 18.

The total number of persons receiving either a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 50,172,400. Federally administered payments totaled over \$2.8 billion in December 2001: \$2.5 billion in federal SSI payments, and \$302 million in state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$394. The aged averaged \$314; disabled and blind, \$413.

In addition, 689,163 persons in 30 states received state-administered payments in December 2001, which totaled \$75 million.

In **New Hampshire**, 11,942 persons—944 aged, and 10,998 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2001. A total of 1,829 recipients were aged 65 or older, 8,473 between 18 and 64, and 1,640 under 18.

Federal SSI payments totaled \$4.7 million. The average federal payment was \$350 overall, \$208 for aged recipients, and \$362 for those disabled and blind. In addition, 16,784 persons in New Hampshire received state-administered supplementation in December 2001, which totaled \$873,000.

In December 2001, the total number of persons in New Hampshire receiving either a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 211,569.

Social Security Earnings and Employment

Nationally, in 1999, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 151.4 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance or OASDI) program. They earned \$3.7 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$464 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI Trust Funds.

In **New Hampshire** in 1999, an estimated 758,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$19.98 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$2.48 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare Earnings and Employment

Nationally, in 1999, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 154.7 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance or HI) program. They earned \$4.6 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$134 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI Trust Fund.

In **New Hampshire** in 1999, an estimated 766,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$23.90 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$693 million in Medicare taxes.



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Nationally, in December 2001 benefits were paid to 45,874,040 persons. This number included 28,841,850 retired workers, 5,024,520 widows and widowers, 5,265,190 disabled workers, 2,895,150 wives and husbands, and 3,847,330 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.7 percent of the total population and 91.2 percent of the population 65 or older.

Monthly benefits averaged \$874 for retired workers; \$820 for all widows and widowers (\$841 for nondisabled widows and widowers); \$815 for disabled workers; and \$430 for wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers. Average payments for children of deceased workers were \$570; for children of retired workers, \$414; and for children of disabled workers, \$239.

Monthly payments for December 2001 totaled \$36.5 billion. Of this amount, \$26.6 billion was paid to retired workers and their dependents; \$5.2 billion to survivors; and \$4.7 billion to disabled workers and their dependents. Average benefits and total monthly payments include the 2.6 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2001.

In **Rhode Island**, benefits were paid to 191,520 persons. This number included 129,650 retired workers; 16,030 widows and widowers; 23,990 disabled workers; 7,250 wives and husbands; and 14,600 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 18.2 percent of the total population of the state and 93.6 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Rhode Island received an average of \$874 per month; widows and widowers, \$857; disabled workers, \$797; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$437. Average payments for children were: \$409 for children of retired workers; \$586 for children of deceased workers; and \$222 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly payments in December 2001 totaled \$155 million. Of this amount, \$117 million was paid to retired workers and their dependents; \$17 million to survivors; and \$21 million to disabled workers and their dependents.

Supplemental Security Income Program

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2002, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$545, and for a couple, \$817.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2001, 6,688,489 persons received federally administered SSI payments including 1,264,463 aged, and 5,424,026 who were disabled or blind. A total of 1,995,159 recipients were aged 65 or older, 3,811,494 were 18 to 64, and 881,836 were under age 18.

The total number of persons receiving either a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 50,172,400. Federally administered payments totaled over \$2.8 billion in December 2001: \$2.5 billion in federal SSI payments, and \$302 million in state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$394. The aged averaged \$314; disabled and blind, \$413.

In addition, 689,163 persons in 30 states received state-administered payments in December 2001, which totaled \$75 million.

In **Rhode Island**, 28,623 persons—4,511 aged, and 24,112 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2001. A total of 7,599 recipients were aged 65 or older, 17,580 between 18 and 64, and 3,444 under 18.

Federally administered SSI payments totaled \$12.4 million, of which \$10.2 million was federal SSI and \$2.2 million, state supplementation. The average federally administered payment was \$402 overall, \$295 for aged recipients, and \$422 for those disabled and blind.

In December 2001, the total number of persons in Rhode Island receiving either a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 208,703.

Social Security Earnings and Employment

Nationally, in 1999, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 151.4 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance or OASDI) program. They earned \$3.7 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$464 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI Trust Funds.

In **Rhode Island** in 1999, an estimated 585,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$14.58 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$1.81 billion in Social Security taxes.

Medicare Earnings and Employment

Nationally, in 1999, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 154.7 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance or HI) program. They earned \$4.6 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$134 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI Trust Fund.

In **Rhode Island** in 1999, an estimated 593,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$16.61 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$482 million in Medicare taxes.



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Social Security Program

The Social Security program—Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI)—provides monthly benefits to workers and their families when earnings stop or are reduced because the worker retires, dies, or becomes disabled. The amount of the worker's retirement insurance (old-age) or disability benefit is based on the worker's level of earnings in employment or self-employment covered by the Social Security program. The benefit amount for an auxiliary or survivor beneficiary is based on a percentage of the worker's benefit. Monthly benefits are payable to retired workers at age 65 (reduced benefits at 62) or to disabled workers at any age. Auxiliary and survivor beneficiaries must generally meet an age, a disability, or child care requirement.

Nationally, in December 2001 benefits were paid to 45,874,040 persons. This number included 28,841,850 retired workers, 5,024,520 widows and widowers, 5,265,190 disabled workers, 2,895,150 wives and husbands, and 3,847,330 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 15.7 percent of the total population and 91.2 percent of the population 65 or older.

Monthly benefits averaged \$874 for retired workers; \$820 for all widows and widowers (\$841 for nondisabled widows and widowers); \$815 for disabled workers; and \$430 for wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers. Average payments for children of deceased workers were \$570; for children of retired workers, \$414; and for children of disabled workers, \$239.

Monthly payments for December 2001 totaled \$36.5 billion. Of this amount, \$26.6 billion was paid to retired workers and their dependents; \$5.2 billion to survivors; and \$4.7 billion to disabled workers and their dependents. Average benefits and total monthly payments include the 2.6 percent cost-of-living increase effective December 2001.

In **Vermont**, benefits were paid to 105,330 persons. This number included 66,570 retired workers; 10,200 widows and widowers; 13,400 disabled workers; 6,080 wives and husbands; and 9,080 children. Social Security beneficiaries represented 17.2 percent of the total population of the state and 95.6 percent of the state's population aged 65 or older.

Retired workers in Vermont received an average of \$862 per month; widows and widowers, \$818; disabled workers, \$787; and wives and husbands of retired and disabled workers, \$421. Average payments for children were: \$421 for children of retired workers; \$584 for children of deceased workers; and \$225 for children of disabled workers.

Monthly payments in December 2001 totaled \$82 million. Of this amount, \$60 million was paid to retired workers and their dependents; \$10 million to survivors; and \$12 million to disabled workers and their dependents.

Supplemental Security Income Program

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, and disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands. The program is based on nationally uniform eligibility standards and payment levels. The federal SSI payment is determined by the recipient's countable income, living arrangement, and marital status. As of January 2002, the maximum monthly federal SSI payment for an individual living in his or her own household and with no other countable income is \$545, and for a couple, \$817.

A state may supplement the payment levels of all or selected categories of recipients. These supplemental payments may be administered by the state or the Social Security Administration.

In December 2001, 6,688,489 persons received federally administered SSI payments

including 1,264,463 aged, and 5,424,026 who were disabled or blind. A total of 1,995,159 recipients were aged 65 or older, 3,811,494 were 18 to 64, and 881,836 were under age 18.

The total number of persons receiving either a Social Security payment, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 50,172,400. Federally administered payments totaled over \$2.8 billion in December 2001: \$2.5 billion in federal SSI payments, and \$302 million in state supplements. The average federally administered payment was \$394. The aged averaged \$314; disabled and blind, \$413.

In addition, 689,163 persons in 30 states received state-administered payments in December 2001, which totaled \$75 million.

In **Vermont**, 12,554 persons—1,464 aged, and 11,090 disabled and blind—received federally administered SSI payments in December 2001. A total of 2,907 recipients were aged 65 or older, 8,358 between 18 and 64, and 1,289 under 18.

Federally administered SSI payments totaled \$4.8 million, of which \$4 million was federal SSI and \$800,080, state supplementation. The average federally administered payment was \$355 overall, \$183 for aged recipients, and \$377 for those disabled and blind.

In December 2001, the total number of persons in Vermont receiving either a Social Security benefit, a federally administered SSI payment, or both was 111,657.

Social Security Earnings and Employment

Nationally, in 1999, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 151.4 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Social Security (Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance or OASDI) program. They earned \$3.7 trillion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$464 billion in Social Security taxes to the OASI and DI Trust Funds.

In **Vermont** in 1999, an estimated 362,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Social Security program. They had \$7.98 billion in Social Security taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$990 million in Social Security taxes.

Medicare Earnings and Employment

Nationally, in 1999, the latest year for which state data are available, an estimated 154.7 million persons worked in employment that was covered under the Medicare (Hospital Insurance or HI) program. They earned \$4.6 trillion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$134 billion in Medicare taxes to the HI Trust Fund.

In **Vermont** in 1999, an estimated 364,000 residents worked in employment covered under the Medicare program. They had \$9.00 billion in Medicare taxable earnings. Employees, employers, and the self-employed paid a total of \$261 million in Medicare taxes.



Angela Y. Harper was responsible for the programming, processing and compiling of data. For additional information pertaining to data in the factsheet, please contact Rona Blumenthal (410-965-0163) for Social Security data; Arthur Kahn for SSI program data (410-965-0186); and for information about earnings and employment, Greg Diez (410-965-0153). For technical information about the data processing, contact Angela Y. Harper (410-965-0106). For additional copies, contact the Division of Information Resources (202-358-6274) or check SSA's web site: <http://www.ssa.gov/policy>.